

AKEL: THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CYPRUS. By *T. W. Adams*. Stanford: Hoover Institution Press, 1971. xxii, 284 pp. \$6.00.

This is the second in a series of monographs on nonruling Communist parties, edited by Jan F. Triska, from the Hoover Institution's project on comparative Communist party politics. Its author, the Cyprus expert who published in 1964 the *U.S. Army Area Handbook for Cyprus* and in 1968 coauthored with A. J. Cottrell *Cyprus Between East and West*, describes and analyzes in great detail the genesis, organization, growth, and activities of AKEL (Progressive Party of the Working People) in their political (both domestic and international), social, economic, and cultural settings, and seeks to explain why it is that in this Eastern Mediterranean microstate, led by a president who is also the religious leader of the majority of the island republic's inhabitants, there exists the largest nonruling Communist party in the world in terms of the percentage (about 4 percent) of the adult population that participates in it.

Mr. Adams would have added to the considerable success of his effort if he had delved deeper into the question of how many of AKEL's rank and file and those who vote for AKEL (some 30 percent of the Greek Cypriot electorate) are fully aware of the party's Communist character, partly because the party titles itself misleadingly as it does, instead of KKK (Communist Party of Cyprus), as it frankly called itself between 1921, when three Greek Cypriots founded it, and 1933, when the British authorities ordered its dissolution (along with that of other political parties on the island).

Another reason for AKEL's appeal among Greek Cypriots may be that the five AKEL representatives who went to London, with representatives of other Cypriot political groups, at the time of the quinquartite Cyprus conference at Lancaster House (February 17–19, 1959) voted—together with Vassos Lyssaridis, Glafkos Christis, and Tassos Papadopoulos (the latter an EOKA member)—against Makarios's accepting the Zurich and London terms for dealing with the Cyprus question. Failure to consult the original version of George Grivas-Dighenis's *Memoirs, 1955–1959* (in Greek; Athens, 1961, p. 381) accounts for the omission of this important item about AKEL's political behavior.

In an otherwise comprehensive, exhaustive, and excellent study of AKEL, this reviewer misses a comparative analysis of the similarities and differences between AKEL and EDA (Union of the Democratic Left), the Communist façade party active in Greek politics from 1951 to 1967. EDA is mentioned only once in the text (p. 174) and is not listed in the index. Yet AKEL, together with EDA and the KKE (Communist Party of Greece), which has been outlawed since 1947, developed in similar cultural and social settings, though their political settings differed (AKEL's was a colonial one, and its activities were intertwined in a struggle for *enosis*, which it opposed, and self-determination, which it supported in accordance with the Soviet line).

Other minor points of criticism: the Greek civil war began in 1946 (March 31) not in 1947 (pp. 3 and 174); there are misspellings of several transliterated Greek proper names.

STEPHEN G. XYDIS
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